

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A protective coating reinforced with shape memory alloy (SMA) particles. In one preferred form the coating comprises a paint that is
5 reinforced with SMA particles. The SMA particles, in one preferred form, are NITINOL® alloy particles. The NITINOL® alloy particles may comprise cylindrical, oval or spherical shaped particles and are intermixed in a base material of the coating or paint. The SMA particles provide superelastic, reversible strain properties that significantly improve the damage resistance,
10 damage tolerance and elevated temperature performance of the coating or paint after after it is applied to an external component, without negatively affecting the hot-wet strength of the coating or paint.